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Northern Region News

A Newsletter for Employees and Retirees

ISSUE 2

March - April, 1999

Idaho Forests Under Seige Douglas-fir bark beetle outbreak worst since 1950s

by Nadine Pollock,
George Washington & Jefferson National Forest, detailed to IPNF

The Douglas-fir bark beetle has been receiving a lot of notoriety lately. It lives a fairly peaceful existence as a permanent resident in the forests of northern Idaho and eastern Washington until those periods when their numbers explode. Given a prime food and nesting source, such as windthrown Douglas-fir trees, the beetle can reproduce to epidemic proportions. That is what has happened.

The food source for the outbreak on the Idaho Panhandle and R-6's Colville National Forests was provided when snow, ice, and windstorms during the winter of 1996-97 damaged trees in the area. A tremendous number of eggs were laid in these downed and windthrown trees during the spring of 1997. An equally tremendous number of beetles emerged from the down trees and infested stands of living trees in the spring of 1998, to create a beetle outbreak that is the worst in the area since the early 1950s.

Beetles bore into the bark of these trees and chew tunnels in the tree, laying eggs along the way. As these eggs hatch, the young beetle larvae chew other tunnels in a horizontal direction around the tree, ultimately girdling the tree. A year later, the new hatch of beetles will then bore exit holes through the bark of the tree and fly to a new food source. Approximately one year later, the tree is dead. Signs of a dead tree include needles which turn yellow then to a reddish brown.

The bark beetle is only one symptom of forests out of balance. Douglas-fir stands are now twice as abundant in northern Idaho as they have been in the past. More than 90 percent of the stand composition of 50 years ago, which included western white pine, ponderosa pine, and larch, has been lost.

In response to these problems, the forests have produced a Douglas-fir Beetle Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The proposed strategies would help create a more historic vegetative composition, restore watershed health, and reduce fuel accumulations which could feed a catastrophic wildland fire. The public provided comments on this document through March 16.

A decision on the project is expected by mid-May. The Idaho Panhandle and Colville National Forests have made great efforts to work with their public agency partners to make the public aware of the seriousness of the situation and to work together on a solution.

(In the next *Northern Region News* will be a full discussion of the Idaho Forest Health Report, due for release in May.)



*After all
these years...*

The DG Retires

The Data General computer system, the Forest Service's first agency-wide internal communication and automation device aside from the telephone, has been forced into retirement. First installed in 1983, the DG has been replaced by new technology from IBM.

By March 31, R-1 staff had taken all DG systems taken out of service. The last remaining DG in the Regional Office is Year 2000 compliant but will eventually be decommissioned as well. Stated Kristi Jacobsen, with the RO information systems staff, "We should be proud of all of the work put in by our employees to move the Region's automated business processes from the Data General to the IBM to meet the deadline. It truly was an extraordinary effort."



A Message From the Regional Forester

Dale Bosworth

Northern Idaho and eastern Washington are currently facing serious forest health problems. One of the symptoms that has emerged in the last couple of years is an epidemic of Douglas-fir bark beetles. Contributing to this beetle problem is an over-abundance of Douglas-fir and grand fir in stands that historically had more pine and larch. These factors, combined with forest damage from snow and ice two winters ago, catapulted the Douglas-fir beetle population to epidemic levels.

To address the situation, the Idaho Panhandle National Forests and R-6's Colville National Forest designed a model approach to bring the issue forward to local residents. The staff first carefully analyzed and defined the problem, using such broadscale findings as the Upper Columbian River Basin Study. The issue was then taken to a more site-specific scale to give everyone a clear understanding of the causes of the epidemic and ideas for ecosystem restoration in bug-hit areas.

From the inception, the two forests have worked with Federal and State partners and other local groups to determine how best to present the information to the general public. The forest, with its partners, decided to run an advertisement in the newspaper and hold a series of public workshops on the beetle and the problems of the infestation. Over

1,500 people were contacted through these workshops.

The IPNF and Colville staffs have continued their efforts to discuss the issue openly to raise the public's level of awareness. On January 22, 1999, a Draft Environmental Impact Statement was issued, which elicited over 900 public comments.

It has been a good team effort at every level—internally, among the forest staff, forest health protection, and the Regional Office, and externally with other agencies and the public. It's unlikely any decision will receive unanimous approval, but the IPNF and Colville are certainly going the extra mile to work with partners and the public to design a project most people can support.

What's Selling Like Hotcakes?

by Jim Shelden
regional geology program leader

What does everybody want that we have? The new Glacial Lake Missoula map sold at the visitor information desk in the Regional Office. The map is offered through the geometronics group for sale to the public and vendors by the information desk staff. Sales have been brisk. The first printing of 2,000 sold out in less than three months. The second printing of 5,000 arrived in mid-February and sales have again taken off, with vendors asking for more.

The creation of the map goes back to 1992, with the first meeting of the Ice Age Floods Task Force. The ad-hoc group of scientists from the Forest Service, BLM, USGS and the National Park Service met with the object of cooperating to further the interpretation of Lake Missoula floods across a four-state area. Soon state and private interests led to creation of the Ice Age Floods Institute, a private nonprofit organization to promote this effort. The production of a map to display this historic event was then conceived.

At this point Jeff Silkwood, a geology graduate aiming at a masters degree in geography, entered the picture. Upon being tasked to polish up the RO effort at a flood map, it became apparent this fellow had singular GIS skills along with an artistic flair for creation of subtle and attractive cartography. The results were so successful that the RO had trouble holding on to copies. Engineering's geometronics division decided to have the map printed.

Commenting on sales, RO information assistant Kathy Daugherty stated, "After an article appeared in the *Missoulian* before Christmas we sold over 400 maps in one day. We have a diverse group of persons purchasing the maps—from the local citizen interested in the geological features, to third grade teachers using it in the classroom, to retired University of Montana geology



Kathy Daugherty and Jeff Silkwood with the popular map of Glacial Lake Missoula.

graduates from the 1940's who are elated to see their subject matter now in print." Kathy added she is now receiving a large number of both national and international orders.

This map is a customer service success story that could serve as a model to stimulate the creation of other products to increase public appreciation of natural history and ecologic events. There are great stories waiting to be told about ecologic systems hidden in the data we collect for management. We need to tell the stories in a way the public finds interesting and entertaining.



Above: Athletes from Bozeman, posing for their "Pirates of the Caribbean" picture, the theme of this year's olympics.

Winter Special Olympics Finds a Partner in the Bitterroot

by Dixie Dies, public affairs officer
Bitterroot National Forest

Seventeen years ago, employees from Earth and Wood, a landscaping/nursery company in the Bitterroot Valley, began organizing a Winter Special Olympics for athletes in southwest Montana. Today, dozens of volunteers from the Bitterroot Valley and Missoula, and over 130 athletes from southwest Montana meet at Lost Trail Ski Area to participate in the event.

On the last Tuesday and Wednesday of each January, Lost Trail Ski Area on the Bitterroot National Forest is turned into an "olympic park," complete with cross-country trails, a snowshoe course, inner tube runs, sleigh rides, and more. Tuesday evening, the athletes have a banquet and then enjoy either a swim or dance at Lost Trail Hot Springs Resort.

This year, Evie Bradley (former Stevensville Ranger District employee) and the Bitterroot National Forest received special recognition for their sponsorship and contributions to the Winter Special Olympics. Rodd Richardson volunteered his first year as Bitterroot forest supervisor to help with the snowshoe course. According to Rodd, "This is such an incredible event; the forest is honored to be able to be a part of it."

Right: "Pirate" Evie Bradley, accepting her award



Above: l to r: Bitterroot NF staff Dixie Dies, Mike Wilson, Evie Bradley, Cass Cairns, Rodd Richardson, with Winter Special Olympics award.

Right: Bill Burbop, Darby/Sula Ranger District, helping with the inner tube run.



Below: Mike Wilson, getting into the spirit of the event (notice the parrot ear ring!)



Left: Ron Jenro, Fish, Wildlife and Parks, helps with snow machine rides.



Awards go to projects in Idaho and Missoula

The Northern Region selected the Idaho Wildlife Council - Region 1 to receive its Conservation Education Outstanding Achievement Award for 1998.

Region 1 of the council is chaired by Ed Lehman. The council partnered with a large number of other local groups, individuals, and agencies to raise over \$70,000 for the construction of a facility on the Kootenai County Fairgrounds property in Coeur d'Alene for natural resource interpretation. Beth Paragamian of the IPNF was active in working with the council to assist with the interpretive exhibits, which included habitats and wildlife of the northern Idaho.

During 1998, more than 65,000 people visited the facility. Stated Phil Cooper, conservation educator with Idaho Fish & Game, "It has become the most popular building in the fairgrounds during fair time—both with children and adults." It has also become popular with public schools as a place for field trips during the school year, scouts, 4-H, elderhostel classes, and other community groups.

The Intermountain Region, which includes the Rocky Mountain Research Station in Missoula, selected two Missoulians to receive their award. RMRS employees Jane Kapler-Smith and Nancy McMurray, were recognized for their development of the FireWorks educational trunk.

FireWorks is a self-contained box of creative, interactive teaching materials on how fire affects forests. Working closely with teachers and scientists, Jane and Nancy developed two separate curricula for use in the classroom: one for grades 1-5; the other for grades 6-9. The curriculum has been used so far by more than 1,000 students in grades K-10, in 20 schools. The boxes are available for loan by the Montana Natural History Center in Missoula by calling 406/327-0405.



Visitors at the new wildlife facility.



Being Pro-Active with Natural Resource Agenda



*By Mary Bell Lunsford,
public affairs specialist
Custer National Forest.*

Rand Herzberg, district ranger at the Beartooth Ranger District, has been very pro-active with the local media to raise public awareness of the Forest Service's Natural Resource Agenda. Rand gave three separate interviews during the month of February that focus on how the agenda elements relate to the Beartooth District.

In the articles, Rand explains the future course and direction the agenda is taking the agency. He also discussed in depth local conditions and implications that involve the agenda's key items: healthy watersheds, sustainable forest ecosystems, recreation and forest roads. Rand says, "The agenda is being fairly well received by the locals in Carbon and Stillwater Counties. The two concerns I hear most often deal with impacts to commodity production and roads management."

Both Rand and the newspapers are meeting an important public function in spotlighting these issues at the ground level.

Grandmother Gets Big News - thanks to Red River employees

*by Laura Smith, public affairs assistant
Nez Perce National Forest*

Early one morning last fall, the Red River Ranger Station got a call from a person in Lewiston, Idaho, asking them to find a "Betty LaRoy," whose daughter had gone into labor the night before. The only facts the staff had were that Betty was with a friend who had a red extended cab pickup truck with a camper trailer. License Plate #—N? The caller said they were in the Red River area...maybe!

So Jill Lamb, wilderness ranger, and Janelle Fulbright, recreation technician, drove to the campgrounds towards the Red River Hot Springs. They checked a couple of sites, but no luck. Then they entered Red River Campground and found a red

extended cab pickup with "N" plates. And there was Betty. The employees had the honor of telling her that her daughter, who wasn't due for another three weeks, had gone into labor the night before! "Grandma Betty" was thrilled!

The next day, when Janelle was at Red River Campground to do other work, she saw Betty. The new grandmother was excited to share all of the information of little Emily Rose. Betty had grandsons, but Emily was the first granddaughter. Emily Rose Palmer weighed 6 lb. 6 oz. and has curly hair the color of a fall leaf (red/gold and orange). When Janelle returned home from a fire assignment in early September, she had a note on her desk from Betty LaRoy:

"Red River Ranger Station: I was able to be there at the birth of my granddaughter because of your efforts to get the message to me—I pray the Ranger Station will reopen— Thank you for all your good works! Grandma Betty LaRoy"

by Stan Cook, forestry technician and
Tim Hancock, supervisory forester
Gallatin National Forest

Tree Planting Has Special Meaning

"The partnership with the National Arbor Day Foundation for tree planting began on the Gallatin National Forest in 1990 and has spread to other national forests...throughout the country"

The Plant-a-Tree program on the Gallatin National Forest took on a special meaning recently for the friends and family of Aaron Gastellum. Aaron was an environmental engineering student who was struck and killed by an automobile in New York City. An outstanding student, Aaron had a helpful and positive approach to life and people. Members of the family and friends who knew Aaron came to the Livingston District from around the country in order to plant an area of the Thompson Creek Burn.

The trees for the planting were acquired through funds made available by the Plant-a-Tree program donated directly to the Gallatin National Forest. Aaron's parents, Ed and Carolyn Gastellum were present, along with other family members whose ages ranged from 3 to 88 years old. A high crest within the burn area with a commanding view of the entire Mill Creek drainage was selected for additional planting.

This memorial tree planting project illustrates what can be accomplished through public participation and a concern for the land. The partnership with the National Arbor Day Foundation for tree planting began on the Gallatin National Forest in 1990 and has spread to other national forests in the Northern Region and other regions throughout the country.

These partnerships assist in reforestation efforts, but a major benefit is that it provides the agency with positive exposure to thousands of Americans nation-wide to the mission of the Forest Service. Certainly the public sees the value of the program; individuals and families have contributed nearly one million dollars for tree planting in Region One alone since the program's inception.

In this case, the Gastellum family provided more than just trees for planting. They, in partnership with the Forest Service, provided a legacy for a beloved son and memories for family and friends that will last a lifetime.



Looking into Thompson Creek burn area where Gastellum family and friends planted trees. (upper left).



by Jim Reid, GIS technician
Flathead National Forest

Region One has a new tool for managing its resources. It is a Kodak Professional DCS 420 Color Infrared Digital 35mm camera.

Since shortly after World War II, land managers have used color infrared ground and aerial photography to see different aspects of vegetation and other resources you can't see through the use of normal film. With an infrared photograph, for example, a stand of diseased trees will be shown as a different color than a stand of healthy trees.

But film and processing of infrared pho-

Infrared Camera Goes Digital and digital camera goes aerial

tography can be costly and time consuming. With the new color infrared digital camera, no film or processing is involved. Images are instantly usable by a computer and available for printing. Developed jointly by USDA, Remote Sensing Applications Center (RSAC), Kodak and Nikon, the camera is rugged, lightweight and easy to use. The resolution is about equal to color slide film and the infrared qualities are about the same as the best color infrared film.

R-1 and the Flathead National Forest purchased this camera to become a regional resource as an aerial camera system. In the first season of operation, infrared imagery from this camera has been found to be ideal for stream surveys. It can differentiate woody debris density, bank stability and the number of pool riffles in streams. Using the

airborne capability, miles of stream can be surveyed from the imagery. Field surveyors can then focus on problem areas without having to spend the time to walk the entire creek.

The camera is being used in another project on the Lolo and Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forests involving low level infrared imagery of the entire Rock Creek drainage—about 180 miles. Sponsors include the Forest Service, Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks, Montana Power, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Trout Unlimited, and the University of Montana. The imagery will be combined with temperature and other data on bull trout locations and movements. This information will help study bull trout movements in and out of tributaries, identify trout pools and macro habitats.

Being able to take both natural color and color infrared images means this new camera can benefit a wide range of projects. It has been used to find noxious weeds and mistletoe infestations, map fires, and to analyzing the effects of mines on riparian areas. This new tool will spend little time on the shelf!

For more information contact Don Patterson, RO, 406/329-3430 (IBM: dpatterson/r1), or Jim Reid, Flathead National Forest SO, 406/758-5221 (IBM: jreid/r1.flathead).



Customer Service Corner

...on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF

If you telephone the Forest Service office in Butte, you can now get recorded information on a variety of subjects 24 hours a day. Topics include recreation, firewood, maps, and temporary employment. A similar service will shortly be offered by the Supervisor's Office in Dillon.

...on the Bitterroot NF

In a note addressed to West Fork District Ranger David Campbell and Linda King, "Thanks so much for your prompt reply to my inquiry! I've used the national forests for recreating, now going on twenty-nine years, and I can't say enough good things about the innumerable times I've been directed or assisted by employees of the USFS." Craig Smith, Springfield, MO.

...on the Clearwater NF

Three of the finest advocates for the Forest Service's Customer Service Pledge are Ken Rinehart, Geraldine McCammon and Leann Martin, North Fork Ranger District, Clearwater National Forest. Ken, Geraldine and Leann provide information services to forest visitors in the main lobby of offices shared between the Supervisor's Office and the North Fork Ranger District. Their fine service is recognized through customer comment cards, letters and verbal comments.

"I have been in many times...and Ken has never failed to be extremely friendly, helpful & courteous. He is an exemplary employee." J. Trock, Orofino, Idaho

"Geraldine was very enthusiastic about your beautiful state...and was able to recommend many sightseeing opportunities." D. Abbott, Carefree, Arizona

"I visited Idaho this spring....My camera did not work and my pictures didn't [turn out]. I was very pleased when this office sent me some." L. Gallison, Warner, New Hampshire

"I know it can be difficult at times to always show professionalism and courtesy towards the public each and every time. Mr. Rinehart should be commended for his extra effort...in making the public feel welcome and important...[he] is an asset to your agency." T. Trock, Orofino, Idaho

With Orofino located on US 12, a part of the Lewis and Clark Trail and an Idaho Scenic Byway, such quality customer service only serves to enhance any central Idaho visitor's experience.

...on the Lewis and Clark NF

To Ann Goldhahn, with the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center, "Thank you and the center staff for our field trip on January 26. It was informative and fun—an unusual combination for school! Please use this donation from our students for your educational programs at the center so others can have the same quality experience we had." From Sensational Sevens, North Middle School, Great Falls, MT.

...on the Nez Perce NF

Cynthia Onthank, a frontliner for the Salmon River Ranger District, was singled out in the this letter: "Today I had the pleasure of speaking with a co-worker—'Cynthia' who helped us out. She needs to be thanked because she was very helpful, courteous, and very patient with me....Thank you for your courteous assistance, it IS appreciated." Fred Finlayson, Idaho Falls, ID.

New People on the Clearwater NF

John Keerseemaker is the new Ecosystem Management staff officer for the Clearwater National Forest.

His starting date was February 14. John replaces Dallas Emch, who left in October 1998, for a position with the WO. Raised in Missoula, John has a degree in forestry from UM. He began his Forest Service career with the Lolo National Forest in 1972. Previous positions include work at the Mt. Hood National Forest, R-6, and with the Umatilla National Forest, also in R-6.

John and his wife Penni have two college-age children.

Fay Dalton took the helm March 14 as the new financial management officer for the Clearwater National Forest. She was immediately labeled the "Gang Leader" by the people in financial management who also dubbed themselves as the Dalton Gang.

Faye's most recent position was that of budget and accounting officer on the Savannah River Natural Resource Management and Research Institute (1994-1999). Other positions include financial assistant (1988-1993), and program coordinator (1993-1994) for the Seattle Forestry Sciences Lab.

Faye and her husband Stephen have two sons and two daughters, all of whom live away from home. Faye enjoys fishing, bowling, reading (even if it is an encyclopedia), and she has a special interest in history. But her favorite pastime is baking.



John Keerseemaker



Faye Dalton



Cheryl and Dallas Emch



Moving On

Dallas and Cheryl Emch, former employees of the Clearwater National Forest, are now DC residents, working for the WO. Dallas had been with the forest since 1987. He worked for the Palouse Ranger District, the North Fork District, Pierce Ranger District, and in the SO as timber staff officer and ecosystem management staff officer. His new position with the WO is minerals and geology program manager.

Cheryl came to the Clearwater in 1985 as a resource specialist. Other positions include supervisory resource specialist, timber management assistant, assistant administrative officer, financial manager, and rural development coordinator. She's now budget analyst for the WO.

Gallatin Fills Two Positions

The Gallatin National Forest has filled two positions with transfers from within the forest. **Gene Gibson**, formerly both the Bozeman district ranger and forest engineer, will now wear just one hat—that of forest engineer. Gene's work in engineering has gotten much busier recently with the completion of a land exchange which added 54,000 acres to the forest and an increased workload in restoration projects.

Gibson has held a number of positions on the Gallatin, including forest ecology staff officer. A professional civil engineer, Gibson graduated from the University of Wyoming and has a 28-year career with the Forest Service.

Assuming the Bozeman district ranger job is **Jan Lerum**, who will also retain her position as the forest public affairs officer. Jan transferred to the Gallatin in 1994, returning home to Montana after an 18-year Forest Service career, that included positions in planning, NEPA, and public involvement "in some wonderful communities in Hawaii,

Washington, Oregon and Alaska."

Most recently, Jan was the coordinator of the Tropical Forest Recovery Task Force, an interagency effort based out of the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry in Honolulu. Jan also served as forest planner on the Colville National Forest and as forest environmental coordinator on the Winema National Forest in R-6, and 6 years on the Tongass National Forest in R-10, working on timber sale and mineral development EIS's. Jan is a graduate of the University of Montana School of Forestry.

New Engineer for the Beaverhead-Deerlodge

Ervin Brooks was selected as the new forest engineer on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest in Dillon, Montana. Ervin was one of the assistant forest engineers for the Clearwater National Forest where he had been acting forest engineer recently. Ervin's reporting date at his new job was April 12.

Birch Creek Center Has New Director

Nikki Sandve has accepted the position of director of the Birch Creek Outdoor Education Center, the facility on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. The center is leased by Western Montana College of the University of Montana for conservation education programs and workshops.

Nikki began her new job March 8. She came to the position from the Bitterroot Valley Education Cooperative where she worked as a program developer. She had also worked seasonally in environmental education, conducting wilderness trips for at-risk youth. Nikki, who grew up in Minnesota, has a master's degree in experiential education.



Nikke Sandve and Denali

New Supervisor for the Kootenai NF



Bob Castaneda

Bob Castaneda, supervisor of the Winema National Forest in Klamath Falls, Oregon, for the past seven years, has been named supervisor of the Kootenai National Forest, effective April 11.

In making the announcement, Regional Forester Dale Bosworth stated that the Northern Region is happy to be getting Castaneda back — he worked on several national forests in the Northern Region, most recently as the deputy forest supervisor on the Custer National Forest.

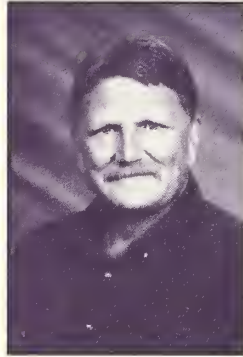
Native to Arizona, Castaneda graduated from Northern Arizona University with a degree in forestry in 1970 and began his Forest Service career as a seasonal forestry technician on the Kaniksu (now Idaho Panhandle) National Forest. In 1972 he earned a permanent position on the Kaniksu, then worked in several positions on northern Idaho and Montana national forests before going to a southern Oregon ranger district in 1980 as a timber management assistant on the Fremont National Forest. In 1984 he was promoted to a district ranger position on Nez Perce National Forest followed by a second ranger job on the Rogue River National Forest in Oregon. In 1986 Bob was named deputy forest supervisor of the Custer National Forest, where he worked until he moved to the Winema National Forest in 1991.

Nez Perce National Forest Welcomes New Supervisor

*by Laura Smith, public affairs assistant
Nez Perce National Forest*

Bringing people into the process is how **Bruce Bernhardt**, new forest supervisor for the Nez Perce National Forest, sees his role. Bruce wants to make decisions regarding land management clear and understandable. He encourages people and clients to become part of the process.

Bruce arrived on the job mid-February. His prior position was that of district ranger for the Feather River Ranger District, Plumas National Forest in Oroville, California. He is a graduate of Syracuse University with a B.S. in resource management. Coming from a large population area in northern California, Bruce added, "I'm just glad to be back in a smaller community where people are familiar with each other."



An open house, to give members of the community an opportunity to meet Bruce, was held March 10 at the Nez Perce National Forest headquarters building.

*Bruce Bernhardt
taken by One Hour Photo,
Grangeville, ID.*

Darby District Ranger Transfers

*by Dixie Dies, public affairs officer
Bitterroot National Forest*

Tom Wagner, district ranger for the Darby and Sula Ranger Districts, Bitterroot National Forest, accepted the position of deputy forest supervisor on the Superior National Forest in Duluth, Minnesota. Tom, who left Darby in February, had been with the forest for the past 7 1/2 years.

During his Region 1 career, Tom also served as acting forest supervisor, Kootenai National Forest, and acting district ranger for the Stevensville Ranger District. Wagner said, "It will be difficult leaving the Bitterroot Valley; my family and I have made a lot of friends, but I'm looking forward to the new challenges on the Superior."

*l to r - Tom's wife
Joan, sons Danny
and Michael, Tom
and daughter Kaitlin.*



Debbie Austin Moves to the Lolo NF

Debbie Austin, forest supervisor for the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest since 1995, has been named forest supervisor for the Lolo National Forest. She will transfer to her new position effective April 25.



Debbie Austin

A veteran of 21 years with the Forest Service, Debbie has served in national forests in California, Washington, and Wyoming. She came to the job in Dillon, Montana, in May 1995, from Mammoth Lakes, California, where she had been a district ranger.

Stated Dale Bosworth, on making the Lolo appointment, "Debbie came in at a difficult time, but she was able to get us from confrontation to cooperation in range management; she completed the merging of the Beaverhead and Deerlodge National Forests into one, more efficient unit; and she pioneered a new way for Federal, State and county government to work together in Beaverhead County, with the work she's done to further the Beaverhead Memorandum of Understanding." The MOU refers to the agreement that settled the 1994 National Wildlife Federation lawsuit against Forest Service management of livestock grazing.

Debbie holds a B.S. degree in wildlife management. Her husband Roger is a surveyor. The couple has twin girls, Chloe and Kelsey, born in April 1998.

Bitterroot Back Country Horsemen Win National Award

by Dixie L. Dies, public affairs officer
Bitterroot National Forest



l to r: Kathy McAllister, deputy regional forester; Helen Engle, president, Bitterroot Back Country Horsemen; Rodd Richardson, forest supervisor, Bitterroot NF.

For 23 years, the Bitterroot Back Country Horsemen organization has dedicated itself to assisting the Bitterroot National Forest in trail and facility construction and maintenance, and back country cleanup projects. In recognition of their efforts, they have received the 1999 Chief's National Award for Volunteer Services.

Their volunteer efforts on the Bitterroot forest have ranged from rolling up and removing telephone wire to their most current project of constructing the 10-mile Coyote Coulee trail. In addition, they have made monetary contributions to the Nine Mile Pack String, Leave No Trace program,

and Eagle Scout projects. Deputy Regional Forester Kathy McAllister expressed the Chief's and the Region's appreciation to the organization during a public open house hosted by the Bitterroot forest.

The Bitterroot Back Country Horsemen join three other National Volunteer award winners from the Bitterroot Valley: 1995, George Regan; 1996, Dot Goodrich; and 1997, Carolynne Merrell. Other nominees this year were the Salmon Mountain Look-out Volunteers, and Amber A. Rodriquez.

Engineer Awards

The Regional Engineers of the Year Awards for 1998 have been announced. Selected were: Technician of the Year, **Larry Shepherd** of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests; Technical Engineer of the Year, **Sue Colyer** of the Lolo National Forest; and the Managerial Engineer of the Year, **Earl Applekamp** of the Flathead National Forest. Congratulations!



Sue Colyer, Lolo National Forest, Managerial Engineer of the Year.

Dombrowske Retires from Rocky Mtn. Ranger District

by Marie Karlson, information assistant
Lewis & Clark National Forest

Jerry Dombrowske, district ranger for the Rocky Mountain Ranger District, Lewis & Clark National Forest, retired January 2 after 33 years of federal service.

With a degree in business, Jerry began his career in Region 1 with the Nez Perce National Forest as an administrative assistant in the Supervisor's Office. After obtaining a degree in forestry, Jerry returned to R-1 to work in the following positions: timber sale prep department, Rexford Ranger District, Kootenai NF; resource assistant, Gardiner Ranger District, Gallatin NF (1970-1978); resource assistant, Madison Ranger District, Beaverhead NF (1978-1982); district ranger, Red River Ranger District, Nez Perce NF (1982-1987); and district ranger, Judith Ranger District, Lewis & Clark NF (1987-1991).

In 1991, Jerry's career brought him to the Lewis & Clark forest as the Rocky Moun-

tain district ranger in Choteau, Montana. While working on the district, Jerry was involved in several ventures, such as working with the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex managers, assisting with Sister Forest Program in Belize, involvement with the 1988 Canyon Creek fires, and many other projects on the forest.

Jerry was also very active in the Operation Pride Program in the community of Choteau. He participated in projects such as development and construction of an Information Center, beautification of the Old Trail Museum and other town projects.

Jerry and his wife Cathy will continue to live in Augusta, Montana where Cathy teaches at the Golden Ridge School. Mechanic work "in the shop that Jerry built" will be keeping him busy, along with chasing pheasants around along with his trusty bird dog Zeke during hunting season. One trip in the works: driving the Alcan (Alaska-Canada) Highway this summer.

Beth Horn Retires

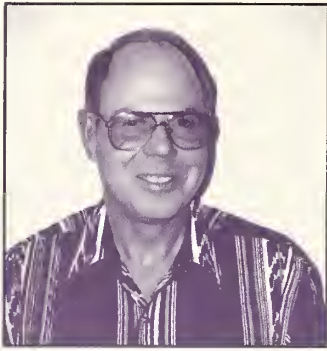
Beth Horn retired on February 27 after 12 years as director of Public and Governmental Relations. She had 33 years of service with the agency. An Indiana native, Beth holds a masters degree from Purdue University in plant ecology. She began her career with the Forest Service with the Siuslaw National Forest in 1966, first as a forest naturalist, and later as director of the Cape Perpetua Visitor Center at Waldport, Oregon. From 1969-1984, Beth worked in the Pacific Northwest Regional Office with both the information office and recreation staff areas. She spent two years in the Washington Office in positions with the land management planning, resources program and assessment, and legislative affairs staffs.

During Beth's tenure, the staff unit received national recognition for its leadership in the area of public involvement and for the role it has played to heighten the importance of partnerships.

Beth and her husband Kirk have a home in Missoula. Their daughter Malcolm is majoring in theatre arts at Ithaca College in Ithaca, New York.



Beth Horn



Lyle
Mothershead
Photo by
Laura Smith

Mothershead Retires from Nez Perce

by Laura Smith, public affairs assistant
Nez Perce National Forest

Lyle Mothershead, engineer with the Nez Perce National Forest, retired January 2, after 30 years with the Forest Service.

Lyle, who grew up in Glens Ferry, Idaho, first worked for the agency as fire crew chief for the Lester Creek Ranger District, Boise National Forest. He moved to Grangeville in 1969 and worked as a civil engineering technician on the Nez Perce National Forest. Lyle held many jobs: a member of a survey crew, survey crew chief, survey party chief, road location and reconnaissance, construction inspector, engineering representative and contracting officer representative on various road, trail, recreation, watershed and road obliteration projects.

Lyle's fondest memories with the Forest Service are all the friends he made over the years throughout the regions. His hobbies include hunting, fishing, gardening, traveling and spending time with his wife Twila of 29 years. They will continue to make their home in Grangeville.

Don Overly Retires from the Flathead

Don Overly, administrative officer on Flathead since 1982, retired January 2, after 35 1/2 years with the Forest Service. For the last year, Don was detailed to the Regional Office to assist as the regional fire business management coordinator. This detail came just in time for Don to help with the cross-agency billing and payments related to the wildfires in Florida this past summer. Don spent so much time in Florida working with the State reviewing billings for fire fighting expenses, he may qualify as a resident!

With a bachelors degree in business management and a masters in business administration, Don worked largely in the field of business management. He held positions on the Wasatch, Boise, Payette, and Challis National Forests, the Intermountain Regional Office in Ogden, Utah, and the Medicine Bow National Forest before coming to the Flathead.

Don and his wife Aliene plan to remain in Kalispell. They have five children in locations around the West. The children and grandchildren are a major part of his retirement plans and he plans to visit them during his travels. Other plans include staying active in service work with his church and gardening.

Leo Terry Retires

by Fely Schaible, investigative assistant
IPNF

February 27 was a red letter day for law enforcement officer Terry Smith: he retired from his law enforcement position with the Idaho Panhandle National Forests and 34 years of Federal service.

Jobs early in his career include temporary or seasonal work with the Coeur d'Alene National Forest (1962-1965) with the fire, trail, and brush fire crews, and as a fire lookout. From 1965-1967, Terry was in the U.S. Army, 7 months of which were spent in Germany with the combat engineering unit. Smith returned to the Forest Service in 1967 and worked until 1975 at the Kingston Ranger District (later merged with the Wallace Ranger District) and the Shoshone Work Center (1975-1984) as a power tool operator, work leader, reforestation TSI, and forestry technician. In 1984 he returned to the Wallace district. In 1987, due to the heavy law enforcement coordination responsibilities assigned to him, Terry received the 8-week Level IV training at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Glynco, Georgia, and from 1994-1999,



Leo Terry

worked as a law enforcement officer with the district. Shoshone County Sheriff Dan Schierman describes him as "an outstanding officer, fantastic to work with, knows everything about the county, and is always there when his services are needed."

Asked about his career, Terry said, "I enjoyed law enforcement the most. To me it's a real rewarding job. I like helping people, but at the same time, I like to see bad people get punished." Smith has no regrets. "The Forest Service has been my life, I put in all my time and energy in it. But there comes a time when you realize there are still other things you want to do. Life is too short."

Smith plans to spend more time now with wife Donna and visiting their grandchildren—two in Iowa and one in Post Falls. Fishing and hunting top the list of things to do for Smith, but playing golf is not far behind.

Ted Tveidt Retires from the Flathead

Allen Rowley, public affairs specialist
Flathead National Forest

Ted Tveidt, fuels specialist for the Flathead National Forest, retired January 2, after 37 seasons of fighting fire with the Forest Service.

Ted began his career on the Tally Lake Ranger District in 1962 as a seasonal on the fire crew. Within a year, he was selected for a permanent position on the district. He worked on the Big Prairie Ranger District, as district fire management officer for the Tally Lake District, and, since 1990, as forest fuels specialist for the Flathead SO.

For those who knew Ted, the real mark of his experience was not in the job titles and work locations, but the 37 seasons of fire fighting. Without flamboyance, Ted had a way of using his experience to work through any problem a fire suppression assignment sent his way. His skill, experiences, and level-headed thinking has helped many of the Region's fire personnel.

When asked why he was retiring in the middle of winter, he responded, "There's still 15 more days of duck season, the ice fishing should be good, and I need to get a bunch of flies tied up for fishing this summer." That response leaves little doubt as to his retirement plans. Ted will continue to reside in the Flathead Valley.

Personnel Actions

BEAVERHEAD-DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

BILLETER, TERRI, accounting technician, Butte RD, performance award
BROOKS, ERVIN, supervisory civil engineer, Clearwater NF, promotion, interdisciplinary, SO
HOWARD, GARY, realty specialist, Butte SO Annex, QSI

Reassignments & Transfers

CONARD, BEN, wildlife biologist, Phillipsburg RD, reassignment, Dillon RD
CONARD, MELISSA, office automation assistant, RO, reassignment, business management assistant, Sheridan WC
FREY, CATHY, resource assistant, temporary promotion, SO Annex Butte
HEDGES, JIM, forestry technician/assistant dispatcher, AFD, reassignment, SO
OLSEN, GARY, supervisory forestry technician, Sequoia NF, reassignment, forestry technician (engine crew leader), Wisdom RD
ROBERTS, BRUCE, fish biologist, Wisdom RD, reassignment, Salmon-Challis NF
SEBBAS, SUE, accounting technician, SO, reassignment, Bitterroot NF, office automation clerk
WITTE, BRETT, supervisory forestry technician, Bridger-Teton NF, reassignment, forestry technician (engine crew leader), Madison RD

New Employees

RICE, DONALD, cartographic technician, SO, CC appointment
STEVENSON, TERESA, business management clerk, Wisdom RD, CC appointment

GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

KUJAWA, GREG, forester, Gardiner RD, promotion, PAO/planner/recreation, Kootenai NF
SOUCEK, PATTIE, forester, Bozeman RD, promotion, land management planner, Payette NF
WYTANIS, MARGITA, information receptionist, Big Timber RD, temporary promotion, forestry technician

Reassignments & Transfers

GHORMLEY, LORRI, personnel officer, Flathead/Kootenai NF, reassignment, SO
HICKEY, JOHN, review appraiser, SO, reassignment, regional review appraiser
KOTKA, KARLA, resource clerk, Livingston RD, temporary promotion, business management assistant
LERUM, JAN, public affairs officer, SO, Detail NTE, District Ranger, Bozeman RD

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

HAGAR, DANIEL, civil engineer, East Zone, to R4 Bridger Teton NF, promotion
JOHNSON, WAYNE, wildlife biologist, SO, temporary promotion
NESBITT, DAVID, forester, Fortine RD, Forest Supervisors Award

Reassignments & Transfers

NELSON, BRENDA, business management clerk, Libby RD, to accounting technician, SO, reassignment

HELENA NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

EDWARDS, LARRY, supervisory forestry technician, Helena RD, promotion

LEWIS & CLARK NATIONAL FOREST

Awards & Promotions

DAVIS, LORETTA, resource assistant, SO, promotion
KARLSON, MARIE, information assistant, RMRC, promotion
ZACHRY, STEVE, fire management officer, Kings Hill RD, promotion

Reassignments & Transfers

DOBROCKE, KAYE, BMA, Interp Center

REGIONAL OFFICE

Awards & Promotions

BERNHARDT, BRUCE, forest supervisor, Nez Perce, promotion
DUFOUR, DALE, public affairs director, P&GR, temp promotion
KRATVILLE, STEVEN, public affairs specialist, P&GR, promotion

Retirements

HORN, ELIZABETH, director, P&GR

There'll be a Reunion in Idaho *Spread the Word!*

The Clearwater-Nez Perce Reunion is scheduled for August 6 and 7, 1999, at Wilderness Gateway Campground. A later mailing will be sent out to all people of record who have worked on those forests. If you were or are a full time employee or a temporary there, or just thought about working there, or if you'd just like to join in the fun—you're invited! Mark your calendars now.

To get the later mailing, please contact: Bob Rehfeld, 835 South A, Grangeville, ID 83530; telephone 208/983-9189; or e-mail: rrehfeld@camasnet.com.

IN MEMORIAM

Jack Heintzelman, 82, of Seattle, died March 3 after a lengthy illness. A graduate of the University of Washington, Jack retired in 1972 after 32 years with the Forest Service. Permanent positions include: dispatcher, smokejumper, timber management assistant, Siskiyou NF, R-6 (1942-47); forester, Olympic NF, R-6 (1947-52); district ranger, Quinalt District, Olympic NF (1952-57); SO, Mt. Hood NF, R-6 (1957-59); health and safety officer, personnel management, WO (1959-61); supervisor of employment & employee management relations, personnel management, RO, R-1 (1961-67); chief, recruitment & qualifications, WO personnel management; and director of personnel management, R-9.

Jack is survived by his wife Annette and daughters Linda Williams and Peggy Wells. Donations in his memory can be made to the National Forest Service Museum, PO Box 2770, Missoula, MT 59806.

Gloria Nyquest, 54, of Missoula, died March 18 from injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident at Clearwater Junction, near Ovando, Montana. Gloria was born and raised in Missoula. She worked for several years at the R-1 Regional Office as a clerk assistant for the Public Affairs and Engineering units. She had 12 years of Federal service when she resigned from the Forest Service in March 1993.

Gloria is survived by her husband Charles "Ted" Nyquest and three sons: Erick, David and Leif. Memorials may be made in Gloria's name to Boy Scout Troop 5, Bonner School, Bonner 59823.

"GOT A MINUTE?"

Catching up with John Drake

John Drake, former director of R-1 Recreation, Minerals, Lands, Heritage and Wilderness (1984-1998) is used to being busy.

After retiring in January 1998, he hasn't slowed down a bit!

Since February 1999, John has been busy as a volunteer, building houses for the Habitat for Humanity program in Missoula. As John puts it, "I like the work because it gives something to the community and because it gives immediate satisfaction. You can do something with your hands and at the end of the day say 'I've accomplished something.' It's a very worthwhile effort."

John has also put his building skills to work in Latin America. In October 1998, Hurricane Mitch hit Central America with devastating results. On New Year's Eve, John joined a Missoula Medical Aid team, consisting primarily of volunteer doctors and



Building in progress in Nicaragua.

nurses, headed for a 21-day stint in Honduras. Although their primary mission was to provide emergency medical relief, there was also a need for building construction. John's carpentry and organizational skills, as well as his fluency in Spanish, were put to good use. He returned January 21, 1999.

The effort in Honduras went so well that a second building team was requested by the neighboring country of Nicaragua. In early March, John was among a group of 5 builders sent in to construct houses and conduct trainings. They were there 14 days. It was hot and dusty, and the team lived as the rest of the community did, in rather primitive and basic conditions.

John was taken back by the positive atti-

tude of the people of Nicaragua and their resolve to rebuild after so much loss of life and property. Fortunately the Missoula team went armed with a huge supply of donated tools, school supplies, and clothes. The generosity of the Missoula community certainly made an impact in both countries, John noted, and was very much appreciated.

"The international aspect makes the work so different and the need is so great," John said of his Latin American tour of duty. He's ready to go back, if called.

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